CLAIMS:-

1. A metal container comprising a base, a side wall and a ring component which is adapted to be closed by a peelable membrane or foil, the base and the ring component being formed from the same sheet metal,

in which the container side wall:

is flared outwardly at the end to which the ring component is fixed by between 6 mm and X mm, where X = 0.15 times the diameter of the container side wall,

has a central section of substantially constant cross-section, and

is tapered inwardly at the base by between 2 mm and Y mm, where Y = 0.22 times the diameter of the side wall.

2. A container according to claim 1, in which the difference between upper diameter D_2 and the side wall diameter D_1 is from 6 mm to 12 mm and the difference between the end diameter D_3 and the upper diameter D_2 is from 14 mm to 28 mm.

3. A container according to claim 2, in which the difference $D_2 - D_1$ is between 10 mm and 11 mm and the difference $D_2 - D_3$ is between 23 mm and 27 mm.

4. A container according to any one of claims 1 to 3, in which the ring component includes a generally flat

panel to which a peelable membrane is fixable, the flat panel having a seal width of 2 mm to 6 mm.

5. A container according to any one of claims 2 to 4, in which the internal diameter of the ring component is the same as or greater than the diameter D_1 of the side wall.

6. A container according to claim 5, in which the diameter D_3 is at least 15 mm smaller than the side wall diameter D_1.

7. A method of forming a container according to any one of claims 1 to 6, the method comprising:

forming a cylindrical side wall;

expanding the side wall at one end and necking the side wall at the opposite end;

forming an intermediate component having a seaming panel connected by a wall to a flat annulus, a substantially cylindrical wall portion and a centre panel;

cutting the centre panel out of the intermediate component and curling the cylindrical wall to form a ring component;

seaming the ring component to the expanded end of the side wall and the centre panel to the necked end.

8. A method according to claim 7, in which the step of forming the intermediate component comprises forming can end features on the centre panel.